

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 03309 162151Z

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ACTION EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 779

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, CA

SUBJ: UNCTAD - MEETINGS ON COMMODITIES - COPPER

REF: STATE 197486

1. PER REQUEST PARAGRAPH 4 REFTEL, EMBOFF DISCUSSED PROPOSAL OF PREPARATORY CONSUMERS MEETING SUGGESTED IN HEWITT-LEGOUX LETTER WITH JEAN TREMBLAY, EXTAFF COMMERCIAL POLICY DIVISION. TREMBLAY SAID GOC WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO SUCH A CONSUMER MEETING, BUT BECAUSE CANADA IS A NET EXPORTER OF COPPER, GOC WOULD NOT ATTEND.

2. TREMBLAY INDICATED THAT GOC IS ATTRACTED BY PROPOSAL OF CIPEC SECRETARY GENERAL GUERONIK FOR A ONE-DAY PRODUCERS' MEETING TO BE HELD SEPTEMBER 16. EMBOFF DISCUSSED THIS PROPOSAL BY PHONE WITH DELL PALAZZOLO (EB/ISM) AND RELATED BACK TO TRAMBLAY VIEW THAT USG WOULD CONSIDER CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN SUCH A PRODUCERS' MEETING DESIRABLE AND SALUTARY.

3. ALSO RAISED PALLAZZOLO'S QUESTION REGARDING GOC VIEWS ON OECD AS POSSIBLE FORUM IN WHICH TO DEVELOP A FIRM CONSUMER CONSENSUS ON MAJOR ISSUES. THREMBLAY, AFTER CONSULTATION, REPLIED THAT GOC FINDS THIS AN INTERESTING PROPOSAL BUT BELIEVES MAIN PROBLEM IS
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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 03309 162151Z

ESTABLISHING CONSUMER-PRODUCER DIALOGUE. GOC FEARS

THAT A PREPARATORY MEETING IN OECD CONTEXT WOULD TEND TO EXACERBATE NORTH-SOUTH TENSIONS, THUS WORKING AGAINST ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH A DIALOGUE. CANADIANS, ACCORDING TO TREMBLAY, WANT TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO RETURN COPPER DISCUSSIONS TO FORMAT AND AGENDA OF MARCH CONSULTATIONS. THEY THEREFORE WOULD PREFER TO PARTICIPATE IN A COPEC CONSUMERS AND PRODUCERS MEETING AIMED AT AN ESTABLISHMENT OF A COPPER STUDY GROUP WHICH WOULD HOPEFULLY HELP TO RETURN THE DIALOGUE TO THE MARCH CONTEXT.

4. TREMBLAY REQUESTED REPLY RE USG VIEWS ON PREPARTORY PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS MEETING SPONSORED BY CIPEC. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE SOONEST.
LEARY

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